



NETHERLANDS COASTGUARD (JRCC Den Helder)

NEWSLETTER nr. 48E (july 2013)

SATELLITE EQUIPMENT WITHOUT GMDSS SUPPORT

The INMARSAT system is a major ingredient in the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) and will continue to be employed for communication and provide capabilities to improve the level of safety for the mariner.

The following subdivision can be made:

INMARSAT-B (digital)	- voice, fax, telex and data.
INMARSAT-F (digital)	- voice, fax, telex and data.
INMARSAT-C	- telex (store-and-forward only).
INMARSAT-M / Mini-M	- voice, fax, and data.

INMARSAT-M and Mini-M DO NOT participate in the GMDSS.

INMARSAT-Mini-M has been designed to be the successor of INMARSAT-M. Although INMARSAT-M and INMARSAT-Mini-M do not participate in the GMDSS, queries can be made via "two-digit service codes" in order to provide quick access to an RCC in case of a distress situation or when medical advice or assistance is required.

Users of INMARSAT-Mini-M fixing a contract with a randomly chosen foreign dealer or service provider should realise that distress alerts or queries via "two-digit service codes" (code 39# for maritime assistance, or code 32# for medical assistance), will be routed to the LES/RCC of the country with which the service provider is associated.

If access to more than one ground station (LES) is required, a maritime Mini-M terminal should be chosen, activated by the "Routing Organisation" of the country concerned. For the Netherlands this is EZAT in Groningen.

INMARSAT-Mini-M has no global coverage.

Users of INMARSAT-Mini-M equipment should bear in mind that contracts fixed with randomly chosen foreign service providers DO NOT give access to the Coastguard Centre in Den Helder in case of distress or when medical advice or assistance is required.

Newsletter nr. 39E cancelled

further information can be obtained at:
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or on our website: www.kustwacht.nl